

BIRMINGHAM COALITION OF MUSLIM ORGANIZATIONS AND MOSQUES

Resolution against the presence of Anjem Choudary in Birmingham

We the undersigned wish to express our concern over the recent visits by Anjem Choudary to the city of Birmingham. Mr Choudary has been involved in setting up a number of stalls and study circles. In his endeavor, he has, on occasions, managed to attract a number of local young people.

We categorically wish to express our opposition to the radical preaching of Anjem Choudary, and his small cohort of followers. He does not represent the majority of the Muslim community in Birmingham. His appearances are a means to increasing his support here and to spreading his message of hate and division within our city. We must do all that we can to ensure that his objectives are not achieved. We would urge all members of the wider community to assist and support us in this message.

In the past, the Muslim community has vehemently challenged and openly opposed the preaching of extreme organisations such as Al-Muhajiroun, Al-Ghurabaa and Islam4UK. Their actions and interpretations of Islam are far removed from the true spirit of Islam. Mr Choudary has been an important player within these organisations and at times their official spokesperson. We are fully aware of his track record and therefore cannot afford to remain complacent about his presence here in Birmingham.

Whilst we wholeheartedly support the rights of individuals and organisations to free speech, we do not support disingenuous initiatives which are designed to bring disharmony to our city. In the past we have stood against the racist provocation of the English Defence League in Birmingham. We now face another message of hatred this time brought to our city by Anjem Choudary.

We wish to make it very clear that he is not welcome here.

Signed by:

As-Suffa
Birmingham Central Mosque
Birmingham Citizens
Central Jamia Mosque Ghamkol Sharif
Confederation of Sunni Mosques (*representing over 150 mosques*)
Councillor Ansar Ali Khan
Councillor Ayoub Khan
Councillor Mohammed Idrees
Councillor Mohammed Ishtiaq
Councillor Salma Yaqoob
Councillor Shokat Ali
Councillor Tanveer Choudhry
Councillor Tariq Khan
Deen International
Dudley Muslim Association
Green Lane Masjid and Community Centre
Hazrat Sultan Bahu Trust
Hear My Voice
Idaara Maarif-e-Islam Hussainia Mosque & Community Centre
Imam Cultural and Research Centre

Islamic Society of Britain (B'ham branch)
Masjid-e-Hamza
Mazhar Iqbal – Chair, Sparkbrook Traders Assoc.
Muslim Association of Britain (Birmingham)
Muslim Women's Network
Paigham-e-Islam Mosque
Pakistani Community Development Network
Qamar Bhatti – Chair, MRB Foundation
Rubina Iqbal – Chair, Sparkhill Asian Women Assoc.
Saheli Women's Group
Somali Disability & Elderly Support Group
The Amanah Mosque
The Bangladesh Council
The Muath Trust
The Salaam Institute
TYGA Youth Forum
Washwood Heath Council of Mosques (*representing 13 mosques*)
Young Muslims UK (Birmingham)
Youth Inclusion Project Forum (YIP Forum)